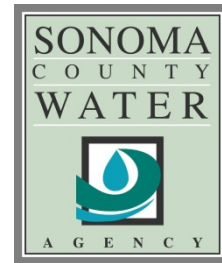


# Sonoma Clean Power Update

## Welcome to the Sonoma Clean Power Monthly Update

Sonoma Clean Power is a community choice aggregation (CCA) program currently undergoing investigation and development through the Sonoma County Water Agency. CCA programs allow cities and counties to form a service area to purchase and deliver electricity to their residents. Sonoma Clean Power is being studied because it may provide multiple benefits including offering a cleaner electricity supply as well as developing local renewable energy projects.

The purpose of this monthly newsletter is to provide a regular stream of information regarding the CCA effort to the public and interested parties. We thank you for your interest in this project and please let us know if you have any feedback.



## Upcoming Public Forum Presentations

**There are no open-forum public presentations scheduled at this time.**

## Potential Energy Service Providers Interviewed

Respondents to the Request for Information for potential energy service providers (ESPs) were interviewed in early September. The purpose of the interviews was to obtain information regarding potential financing options, level of service offered by ESPs and variations on power delivery contracts.

## Upcoming Presentations (Private Organizations)

October 18 - Impact Sonoma, an event hosted by the North Bay Business Journal

October 18 - Sonoma County Taxpayer's Association

## Draft Implementation Plan Expected in October

A draft Implementation Plan is being prepared and a draft is due in early October. The Implementation Plan is essentially a business plan for Sonoma Clean Power and will outline program financials and operations. When the draft Implementation Plan is received it will be reviewed by staff and the steering committee. The document will remain in draft form until it is approved by the Board of the Joint Powers Authority (see below).

For more information, contact [Amy Bolten](#).

## Joint Powers Authority Initial Structure Under Review

A Joint Powers Authority (JPA) is an entity formed by two or more public agencies for the purpose of acting collectively towards a common purpose. JPAs are governed by a Board of Directors comprised of representatives from the entities which make up the JPA. As a governance entity for Sonoma Clean Power, a JPA would have the advantage of protecting the local jurisdictions' general funds from any liability or debt incurred by the JPA.

## Follow-up Links

[AB 117](#)  
[SB 790](#)  
[Feasibility study](#)  
[Residential market survey](#)  
[Commercial market survey](#)  
[August Newsletter](#)  
[July Newsletter](#)  
[June Newsletter](#)  
[General Information](#)

## Project Timeline

**March 22, 2011** - Board of Directors directs staff

A draft JPA enabling document has been circulated to city managers of Santa Rosa, Sonoma, Sebastopol, Cotati, Windsor, Rohnert Park, Cloverdale and Petaluma. Feedback from the city managers will be collected and a revised draft JPA structure will be developed for consideration.

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## *Local CCA News:*

### **Committee Approves CleanPowerSF**

On September 12th, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors Budget & Finance Committee voted 2-1 in favor creating CleanPowerSF, entering into a contract with Shell Energy Northern California to administer the program, and devoting \$19.5 million from the San Francisco Public Utility Commission's water fund to help launch it and buy clean power for city residents.

Sup. John Avalos and Jane Kim supported the project, while Sup. Carmen Chu was opposed. It now goes to the full Board of Supervisors next week, where it is expected to have progressive support and be opposed by the fiscal conservatives.

The full story is available at the link below.

([www.sfgate.com](http://www.sfgate.com), September 12, 2012)

<http://www.sfbg.com/politics/2012/09/12/committee-approves-cleanpowersf-over-downtown-opposition>

### **Marin Energy Authority now serves 95,000 Marin Customers**

The Marin Energy Authority now has approximately 95,000 customers after recently completing its marketing roll-out to all potential Marin customers who hadn't previously been given the choice of switching from Pacific Gas and Electric Co.

The authority got started with a mailing to just 7,500 Marin residents in February 2010 and staged three more modest offerings, signing up about 13,000 customers, before launching its latest marketing offensive. It expects to begin marketing to residents of the city of Richmond in April 2013.

The authority is trying to jump-start the use of renewable energy sources by stimulating demand; it offers customers the opportunity to buy electricity that is supplied by 50 to 100 percent renewable sources.

Last year, the authority's potential market expanded dramatically when the final holdouts among Marin's municipalities - Corte Madera, Larkspur, Ross and Novato - jumped on the bandwagon. The authority sent the first of several opt-out letters to residents in those cities and others throughout Marin in April. Final notices were mailed in August. The full story is available at the link below.

(Marin Independent Journal, September 16, 2012)

[http://www.marinij.com/novato/ci\\_21547659/marin-energy-authority-serves-95-000-marin-customers](http://www.marinij.com/novato/ci_21547659/marin-energy-authority-serves-95-000-marin-customers)

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## *CCAs Around the Country:*

to investigate the creation of a CCA

**October 13, 2011** - Feasibility Study Completed

**April 10, 2012** - Board of Directors directs Water Agency to prepare an implementation plan and pursue the formation of a JPA

**July, 2012** - Draft JPA to cities and county for review

**September 2012** - Potential power providers interviewed

### **Projected Milestone Dates:**

**October 2012** - Draft Implementation Plan received

**March 2013** - Form JPA

# Oak Park, Illinois Launches CCA Program with 100% renewable Power

On October 17, 2011, the Village of Oak Park, Illinois, established a community electricity aggregation program with a two-year contract with Chicago-based Integrys Energy Services to supply electricity and credits from 100 percent green sources like wind and solar, while still saving local customers about a 25 percent over the current state-approved electricity provider.

Oak Park began the initiative in April of 2011 after voters approved a referendum to authorize the Village to bundle - or aggregate - all residential and small business electric accounts and seek bids for electricity on the open market, an option many large industrial and commercial enterprises use to reduce their costs for electricity. When bids were received from half a dozen state-certified energy providers, the difference between a mix of traditional power generation sources and all-green alternatives was so small, officials said, going with the renewable option was an easy choice.

Oak Park is largest of the 20 Illinois communities where voters have approved electricity aggregation programs. For more information on Oak Park's electricity aggregation program, e-mail [sustainability@oak-park.us](mailto:sustainability@oak-park.us).